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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of	Group Art Unit:	2165
Steven C. Robertson		
Serial No.: 09/324,601	Examiner:	Azpuru, Carlos
Filed on: 06/02/99		
Title: System and Method for Providing Electronic Multi-Merchant Gift Certificate & Contribution Brokering Services Over a Distributed Network		

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Applicant responds to the Office action dated 6/27/01 to which a response was originally due 9/27/01. Applicant did not receive a complete copy of one of the references cited by the Examiner therefore the Examiner reset the time for response to the Office action on 7/17/01. Accordingly, a response to the Office action is now due 10/17/01. No extension of time is required for consideration of this response.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

A. Berebitysky et al.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-22 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Berebitysky et al.

Berebitysky et al was published 8/98, less than the 1 year from the filing date of this application. Therefore, Berebitysky et al. is not properly applied against this application under § 102(b). Therefore applicant requests the examiner withdraw this rejection of claims 1-22 under § 102(b) in view of Berebitysky et al.

Technology Center 2100

OCT 17 2001

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